

Franklin B. Hough, *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York* (Albany, 1853):

p. 515, **Westville**,

Was formed from Constable, with its present limits, April 25, 1829. Its name was suggested from its being the west part of Constable, and a post office named West Constable, had been established the year before. This has not since been changed.

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Near the point where the principal road from Fort Covington to Malone crosses Salmon River, in this town, is a forge for the manufacture of bar iron from bog ore which occurs in the swamps of this town and Constable. This forge was erected by **David Erwin**, about 1810, and has been more or less used nearly every year since its first erection. It produced for many years the nails used in the country which were made by the tedious and expensive methods in use before the invention of the machinery now used. Plates of iron of the width of a nail's length were first plated out under the forge hammer and these were subsequently cut and headed by hand. The usual price for these nails was thirty cents a pound and the cost for this necessary article formed no small proportion of the expense of building. There is another forge about three miles above.

p. 508,

During the war, a volunteer company, consisting mostly of revolutionary soldiers, and styled Silver Greys, was formed under **David Erwin**. Their age exempted them from duty, but their inclinations led them to it. On the capture of Tilden's company at French Mills, they started for that place, but did not arrive till after the surrender.

p. 637,

After Captain Tilden's company were taken prisoners, their place was supplied by militia and volunteers from Columbia county, under the command of Major Tanner, part of the 9th regiment New York State militia, who remained here until the first of March, 1813, when Captain David Erwin raised a company of volunteers who were stationed as a garrison for the block house, here, during the spring and summer of 1813. This company in the fall joined General Hampden's forces at Chateaugay, where he was intending to cooperate with General Willkinson, after which this company was discharged.